

## February 22, 2026

Please take a moment to sign our attendance register located in each pew.

(\*\*Indicates, please stand as able)

Greeting/Life of the Church

Prelude Carol Stewart  
"Seek Ye First" Karen Lafferty/Marilynn Ham

Introit "Come, Thou Almighty King" Chancel Choir

\*\*Call to Worship

The God who created us is calling us to worship.

**God, we long to hear your voice.**

The Christ who leads us into discipleship is beckoning us forward.

**Christ, we long to follow your path.**

The Holy Spirit who empowers us is blowing us into new life.

**Come, Spirit, come! Inspire our worship.**

\*\*Opening Hymn "Thy Word Is a Lamp" UMH #601

Opening Prayer (unison)

**Gracious and Loving God, we seek the freedom found in the grace we receive through Christ Jesus. We seek to know more fully your great love. Turn us from our temptations. Inspire us to open ourselves to the way of Christ, that as we examine our lives and live out these days, we may become examples of your abundant love for all people. May your Divine Spirit tend us as angels attended Jesus in the wilderness, and may we feel revived and sustained to follow Jesus. Amen.**

Special Music Ruth Gorman, flute solo  
"Sonata IV" J.S. Bach

Children's Moments

Prayer Hymn "Whom Shall I Send?" UMH #582

Prayers of the Faithful & the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Offering/Offertory Carol Stewart  
"Nothing Between" Charles A. Tindley/Harold De Cou

\*\*Doxology UMH #95

\*\*Prayer of Dedication

**We offer ourselves to you, Lord Jesus, emptying ourselves to become your vessels of love and grace and hope to all we encounter. May the gift of our lives, the gifts of our service, and these gifts we bring today help build your kingdom on earth, as it is in heaven. Amen.**

\*\*Gospel Reading Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Ministry of Music Chancel Choir  
"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" Choral setting by Jack Schrader

Sermon Pastor Jeff Bandy  
"Removing Barriers to Engagement: Hypocrisy"

\*\*Closing Hymn "Wonderful Words of Life" UMH #600

\*\*Sending Forth

Postlude Carol Stewart  
"Open My Eyes, That I May See" Clara H. Scott/Norman Johnson



*The Altar flowers are given by Jim Osburn  
in honor of all February birthdays.*

## Gospel Reading – Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 (CEB)

### Showy religion

**6** “Be careful that you don’t practice your religion in front of people to draw their attention. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

**2** “Whenever you give to the poor, don’t blow your trumpet as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets so that they may get praise from people. I assure you, that’s the only reward they’ll get. **3** But when you give to the poor, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing **4** so that you may give to the poor in secret. Your Father who sees what you do in secret will reward you.

### Showy prayer

**5** “When you pray, don’t be like hypocrites. They love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners so that people will see them. I assure you, that’s the only reward they’ll get. **6** But when you pray, go to your room, shut the door, and pray to your Father who is present in that secret place. Your Father who sees what you do in secret will reward you.

### Showy fasting

**16** “And when you fast, don’t put on a sad face like the hypocrites. They distort their faces so people will know they are fasting. I assure you that they have their reward. **17** When you fast, brush your hair and wash your face. **18** Then you won’t look like you are fasting to people, but only to your Father who is present in that secret place. Your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

### Earthly and heavenly treasures

**19** “Stop collecting treasures for your own benefit on earth, where moth and rust eat them and where thieves break in and steal them. **20** Instead, collect treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust don’t eat them and where thieves don’t break in and steal them. **21** Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.



### Rev. Jeff Bandy

Office Hours M, T, TH 9:00am-3:00pm & by Appt.

Office: (937) 372-7601 ext. 13

[pastorjeff@fcum.org](mailto:pastorjeff@fcum.org) ♦ [www.fcum.org](http://www.fcum.org)

Like and Follow us on Facebook @ FCUM.Xenia

**We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation**

## February 22, 2026 - Worship Team

Ushers

Micah Fleming, Eric Fleming,  
Jim Osburn, Jake Van Schagen

Greeters

Carolyn Bailey, Sue Ann Beam

Liturgist

Suzanne Bandy

Organist

Carol Stewart

Director of Music

Teri Gray

Handbell Choir Director

Jim McPeck



&



Monday 23	Special Olympics Basketball Boy Scouts Cub Scouts SPRC	6:45 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	FCC FH 15C FH 15A-B Library
Tuesday 24	Walking Tuesday Bible Study Stephen Ministry Training Winter Guard Practice Magic Volleyball Practice	9:00 am 10:00 am 1:00 pm 3:30 pm 6:00 pm	FCC Parlor Library FCC FCC
Wednesday 25	G.S. Cookie Pick Up Handbell Choir Practice Chancel Choir Practice	12:00 pm 6:15 pm 7:30 pm	FCC Music Room Chapel/Sanctuary
Thursday 26	Walking Prayer Shawl Magic Volleyball Practice	9:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm	FCC Parlor FCC
Friday 27			
Saturday 28	Double I Dinner	6:00 pm	FH 15A, Kitchen
Sunday 1	Sunday School Hospitality Time Worship Service	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Rm 6, 11, Library, Parlor Narthex Sanctuary

### Sunday School Studies

**Lenten Study** will meet in FH 15C, Leader Suzanne Bandy, study of **"Removing Barriers to Engagement"**. All are welcome; Double I will join this study.

**Open Doors** will meet in the Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer, study of **"The History and Archaeology of the Bible"** by **Jean-Pierre Isbouts, DLitt**

**Grades 6-12** will meet in Rm 6, Leader Amy Cyr.

**Preschool – Grade 5** will meet in Rm 11 under the leadership of Kiley Fleming and Karen Mossing for Bible Stories and activities to reinforce the Bible Story of the day.

### Next Sermon – Sunday, March 1

"Removing Barriers to Engagement: Fear of the Unknown"

Gospel Lesson

Rev. Jeff Bandy  
John 9: 1-9 (NIV)

## February 22, 2026 Announcements

**DAY OF CARING PANCAKE BRUNCH:** Come join us for Pancakes, Sausage, Donut, fruit and a drink all for \$7 (\$5 60+ and 12/under) **TODAY UNTIL 12:30pm at Xenia Adult Recreation Center, 338 South Progress Drive.**

**LENT STUDY/SERMON SERIES:** To help us navigate our way through various fears which lead to barriers, we are launching a sermon series and Sunday school offering for Lent beginning **TODAY, Feb. 22**, titled, "Removing Barriers to Engagement." This series comes at a time when Faith Community is investing in a season of focusing on congregational and community engagement. All are invited to join us throughout Lent to grow in love as the Holy Spirit works to drive out our fears. The Sunday School study for adults will meet in FH 15C.

**LENTEN OFFERING:** During the season of Lent through **Easter Sunday, Apr. 5**, the church will be collecting a special offering to support the Mongolia Mission Initiative. Throughout the year we will be continuing our support to Mongolia and if you would like to learn more about this important cause, please see their December Newsletter in the white binder on the table in the narthex.

**DAYS IN THE DISTRICTS:** Clergy and Laity are invited to join Bishop Jung on **Saturday, Mar. 7 at Resurrection Mason UMC, 6315 S. Mason Montgomery Rd., Mason. Clergy Gathering will begin at 9:00am.** Worship will be at 9:30am, followed by Bible Study. **Laity will begin at 11:00am** for a special training on leadership skills. Lunch will be served at noon, from 1:00-3:00pm the bishop will lead a discussion on the Five Strategic Pillars of the Ohio Episcopal Area Missional Direction and closing worship. Register by **Sunday, Mar. 1** at <https://www.westhioumc.org/conference/event/srd-and-gmd-bishops-day-district>.

**JACKSON AREA MINISTRIES SEED PROGRAM:** The "JAM" program provides garden plants and seeds for the residents in need so they can provide veggies and fruits for their family. Please mark checks J.A.M. project and place in the offering plate or drop seed packets into the basket in the narthex through **Sunday, Mar. 29.**

**EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE:** Guidelines and application forms are available in the narthex and church office. This year assistance will be offered to graduating high school seniors who are contemplating entering a college or technical school in the fall of 2026 as well as to upper classmen currently enrolled in college. These forms must be completed and returned to the church office by **Thursday, Apr. 16.**

**WE HAVE OPENINGS FOR ALTAR FLOWERS:** Your gift of Altar flowers enhances the worship service and reflects the beauty of God's World. If you have any questions please call the office or Joyce Smith (937) 372-6576.

### WELCOME VISITORS!

If you are visiting with us today, we welcome you and hope you will come back and worship with us again soon. We would love to get to know you, please take a moment to provide your information in the attendance register located in each pew.



Monday 23	Special Olympics Basketball Boy Scouts Cub Scouts SPRC	6:45 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	FCC FH 15C FH 15A-B Library
Tuesday 24	Walking Tuesday Bible Study Stephen Ministry Training Winter Guard Practice Magic Volleyball Practice	9:00 am 10:00 am 1:00 pm 3:30 pm 6:00 pm	FCC Parlor Library FCC FCC
Wednesday 25	G.S. Cookie Pick Up Handbell Choir Practice Chancel Choir Practice	12:00 pm 6:15 pm 7:30 pm	FCC Music Room Chapel/Sanctuary
Thursday 26	Walking Prayer Shawl Magic Volleyball Practice	9:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm	FCC Parlor FCC
Friday 27			
Saturday 28	Double I Dinner	6:00 pm	FH 15A, Kitchen
Sunday 1	Sunday School Hospitality Time Worship Service	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Rm 6, 11, Library, Parlor Narthex Sanctuary

### Sunday School Studies

**Lenten Study** will meet in FH 15C, Leader Suzanne Bandy, study of **"Removing Barriers to Engagement"**. All are welcome; Double I will join this study.

**Open Doors** will meet in the Parlor, Leader Sandy Pramer, study of **"The History and Archaeology of the Bible"** by Jean-Pierre Isbouts, DLitt

**Grades 6-12** will meet in Rm 6, Leader Amy Cyr.

**Preschool – Grade 5** will meet in Rm 11 under the leadership of Kiley Fleming and Karen Mossing for Bible Stories and activities to reinforce the Bible Story of the day.

### Next Sermon – Sunday, March 1

"Removing Barriers to Engagement: Fear of the Unknown"

Rev. Jeff Bandy  
John 9: 1-9 (NIV)

Gospel Lesson

## February 22, 2026 Announcements

**DAY OF CARING PANCAKE BRUNCH:** Come join us for Pancakes, Sausage, Donut, fruit and a drink all for \$7 (\$5 60+ and 12/under) **TODAY UNTIL 12:30pm at Xenia Adult Recreation Center, 338 South Progress Drive.**

**LENT STUDY/SERMON SERIES:** To help us navigate our way through various fears which lead to barriers, we are launching a sermon series and Sunday school offering for Lent beginning **TODAY, Feb. 22**, titled, "Removing Barriers to Engagement." This series comes at a time when Faith Community is investing in a season of focusing on congregational and community engagement. All are invited to join us throughout Lent to grow in love as the Holy Spirit works to drive out our fears. The Sunday School study for adults will meet in FH 15C.

**LENTEN OFFERING:** During the season of Lent through **Easter Sunday, Apr. 5**, the church will be collecting a special offering to support the Mongolia Mission Initiative. Throughout the year we will be continuing our support to Mongolia and if you would like to learn more about this important cause, please see their December Newsletter in the white binder on the table in the narthex.

**DAYS IN THE DISTRICTS:** Clergy and Laity are invited to join Bishop Jung on **Saturday, Mar. 7 at Resurrection Mason UMC, 6315 S. Mason Montgomery Rd., Mason. Clergy Gathering will begin at 9:00am.** Worship will be at 9:30am, followed by Bible Study. **Laity will begin at 11:00am** for a special training on leadership skills. Lunch will be served at noon, from 1:00-3:00pm the bishop will lead a discussion on the Five Strategic Pillars of the Ohio Episcopal Area Missional Direction and closing worship. Register by **Sunday, Mar. 1** at <https://www.westohioumc.org/conference/event/srd-and-gmd-bishops-day-district>.

**JACKSON AREA MINISTRIES SEED PROGRAM:** The "JAM" program provides garden plants and seeds for the residents in need so they can provide veggies and fruits for their family. Please mark checks J.A.M. project and place in the offering plate or drop seed packets into the basket in the narthex through **Sunday, Mar. 29.**

**EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE:** Guidelines and application forms are available in the narthex and church office. This year assistance will be offered to graduating high school seniors who are contemplating entering a college or technical school in the fall of 2026 as well as to upper classmen currently enrolled in college. These forms must be completed and returned to the church office by **Thursday, Apr. 16.**

**WE HAVE OPENINGS FOR ALTAR FLOWERS:** Your gift of Altar flowers enhances the worship service and reflects the beauty of God's World. If you have any questions please call the office or Joyce Smith (937) 372-6576.

### WELCOME VISITORS!

If you are visiting with us today, we welcome you and hope you will come back and worship with us again soon. We would love to get to know you, please take a moment to provide your information in the attendance register located in each pew.